Butterfly Feeder

Bring beautiful pollinators to your yard!

Kit contains:

- 1 Plastic plate
- 1 Sponge
- 1 Pipette
- 3 Strings (tied together)
- 9 beads

You will need: sugar, water, measuring spoons, and a cup or bowl.

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INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1. Decorate the strings with beads. Color makes the feeder interesting to butterflies!

Step 2. Tie each string to a hole in the plate.

Step 3. Mix *9 parts water and 1 part sugar* (example: 9 tsp water and 1 tsp sugar) to make butterfly food.

Step 4. Use the pipette to put drops of your butterfly food onto the sponge until it's wet. Put the sponge on the plate. You can also add fruit slices!

Step 5. Hang your butterfly feeder outside, and observe the butterflies who come to eat! Refill the sponge as needed. (Store extra sugar water in the fridge.)

BUTTERFLY BIOLOGY

The sugar water mix you made is very similar to flower nectar, which butterflies love! They can drink using their proboscis, which is a straw-like tongue. When they land on something they want to eat, they stick out their tongue, put it in the flower, sponge or fruit, and use it like a straw to suck up the nectar, sugar water, or juice!

BUTTERFLIES HELP OUR WORLD!

Butterflies are pollinators. When they land on flowers to drink the nectar, some of the pollen gets on their legs and bodies. When they fly to another flower, they leave some of that pollen behind and the flower can use the new pollen to make seeds and/or fruit! Pollinators are important because without them, we wouldn't have a lot of the food that we need. Butterflies also make our world beautiful!

LEARN MORE ABOUT IT!

Websites:

- https://kidsgrowingstrong.org/pollinators/
- https://kidsgrowingstrong.org/butterflies/
- https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/animals/butterfly

Books (Available at MGPL):

- *Flutter, Butterfly!* by Shelby Alinsky
- *My, Oh My – A Butterfly!* by Tish Rabe
- *Flying Colors: Butterflies in Your Backyard* by Nancy Loewen
- *Butterflies in the Garden* by Carol Lerner
- *Butterflies* by Ann Heinrichs
- *A Butterfly Is Patient* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *Face to Face with Butterflies* by Darlyne Murawski
- *Investigating How Flowers Grow* by Ellen Rene
- *Busy, Busy Butterfly* by Kelli L. Hicks (Ebook)
- *Insect Pollinators* by Jennifer Boothroyd (Ebook)